

Bible Catechism

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Bible Catechism.

BY

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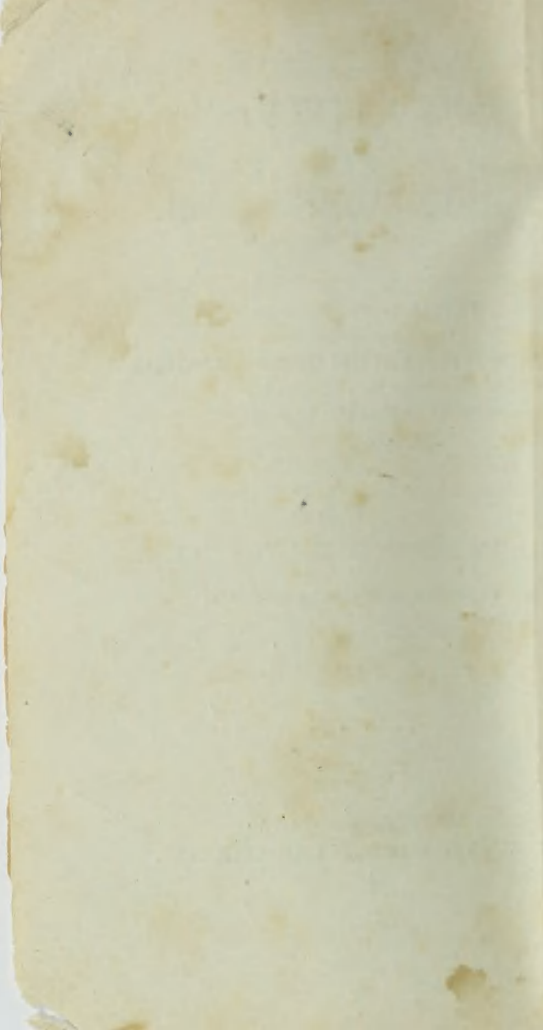
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LESSON I.

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS.

Which is the first commandment?

The first commandment is, Thou shalt have no other gods before me.

Which is the second commandment?

The second commandment is, Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth; thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the Lord thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me; and shewing mercy unto thousands of them that love me, and keep my commandments.

Which is the third commandment.

The third commandment is, Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain; for the Lord will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

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4. Which is the fourth commandment?

The fourth commandment is, Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days shalt thou labor, and do all thy work: but the seventh day is the Sabbath of the Lord thy God: in it thou shalt not do any work, thou, nor thy son, nor thy daughter, thy man-servant, nor thy maidservant, nor thy cattle, nor thy stranger that is within thy gates: for in six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that in them is, and rested the seventh day: wherefore the Lord blessed the Sabbath day, and hallowed it.

5. Which is the fifth commandment?

The fifth commandment is, Honor thy father and thy mother, that thy days may be long upon the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee.

6. Which is the sixth commandment?

The sixth commandment is, Thou shalt not kill.

7. Which is the seventh commandment?

The seventh commandment is, Thou shalt not commit adultery.

8. Which is the eighth commandment?

The eighth commandment is, Thou shalt not steal.

9. Which is the ninth commandment?

The ninth commandment is, Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbor.

10. Which is the tenth commandment?

The tenth commandment is, Thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's house, thou shalt not covet thy neighbor's wife, nor his manservant, nor his maidservant, nor his ox, nor his ass, nor anything that is thy neighbor's.

LESSON II.

THE EXISTENCE OF GOD.

1. Is there a God?

There is only one true God.

2. How can we prove that God exists?

By our own existence, and by what we see existing around us.

3. Do the Scriptures teach that everything in nature sprung from God?

Yes.

For every house is builded by some man; but he that built all things is God. Heb. 3: 4.

4. Do God's works prove his existence?

They do.

For since the creation of the world, the invisible things of him, even his eternal power and Godhead, are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, so that they (the heathen) are without excuse. Rom. 1: 20, 21.

5. Has God made himself known to mankind?

He has.

That which may be known of God is manifest unto them; for God hath shewed it unto them. Rom. 1: 19.

6. Is not the first step in true religion belief in God?

It is.

He that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him. Heb. 11: 6.

7. Have all men the proof of God's existence?

They have.

The heavens declare the glory of God, and the firmament sheweth his handiwork. Day unto day uttereth speech, and night unto night sheweth knowledge. There is no speech nor language where their voice is not heard. Their line is gone out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world. Ps. 19: 2-4.

LESSON III.

THE EXISTENCE OF GOD---Continued.

1. What perfections does the light of nature ascribe to God?

Nature teaches that He is one, self-existent, eternal, almighty, unchangeable, independent, everywhere present, knowing all things, wise, good.

2. How are we related to God?

He is our Creator, Preserver, Owner, Benefactor, Law-giver, Disposer, Governor.

3. Is the light of nature sufficient to teach us the saving knowledge of God?

It is not.

The world by wisdom knew not God. 1 Cor. 1: 21.

4. What teaches us the saving knowledge of God?

The Bible.

We have also a more sure word of prophecy, whereunto ye do well that ye take heed as unto a light that shineth in a dark place. 2 Peter 1: 19.

5. Ought not all human beings to believe in God's existence?

They ought. The evidence which their senses afford them of his existence binds them to this duty.

6. Ought we not to have just views of God?

We ought. If not, we will be led astray.

God is a Spirit, and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth. John 4: 24.

7. Why do some men reject the evidence of God's existence?

Because they are depraved.

Therefore they say unto God, Depart from us; for we desire not the knowledge of thy ways. What is the Almighty, that we should serve him? and what profit should we have, if we pray unto him? Job 21: 14, 15.

LESSON IV.

HOW GOD HAS REVEALED HIMSELF.

1. Has God spoken to mankind through human tongues and pens?

He has.

We have also a more sure word of prophecy, whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place. 2 Peter 1: 19.

2. Who influenced these human tongues and pens
The Holy Spirit.

The prophecy came not in old time by the will of men but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Spirit. 2 Peter 1: 21.

3. Has God given us any later message?

He has.

God who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in times past unto the fathers by the prophets, hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son. Heb. 1: 1, 2.

4. What is meant by the Sacred Scripture.

The Bible, or God's successive written revelations to mankind, containing the books of the Old and New Testaments, given by inspiration of God.

5. Are these writings of divine authority and of great value?

They are.

All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness: that the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works. 2 Tim. 3: 16, 17.

6. Are they a sufficient rule of faith and practice?

They are.

And that from a child thou hast known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus." (2 Tim. 3: 15.) The law of the Lord is perfect, converting the soul. Psalm 19: 7.

LESSON V.

HOW GOD HAS REVEALED HIMSELF.

(Concluded.)

1. What books are included in the Old Testament?

Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, Ruth, 1 Samuel, 2 Samuel, 1 Kings, 2 Kings, 1 Chronicles, 2 Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Solomon's Song, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, Daniel, Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi.

2. What books are included in the New Testament?

Matthew, Mark, Luke, John, Acts, Romans, 1 Corinthians, 2 Corinthians, Galatians, Ephesians, Philippians, Colossians, 1 Thessalonians, 2 Thessalonians, 1 Timothy, 2 Timothy, Titus, Philemon, Hebrews, James, 1 Peter, 2 Peter, 1 John, 2 John, 3 John, Jude, and Revelation.

3. Were the books commonly called Apocrypha inspired?

They were not. They are simply human

writings containing some truths and facts important to be known.

4. In what languages were the Sacred Scriptures at first written?

The Old Testament was written principally in Hebrew, and the New Testament in Greek.

5. What is the Septuagint?

A translation of the Old Testament from Hebrew into Greek, as is supposed by seventy-two interpreters or translators, and usually called the seventy as that is a full or round number.

6. What is meant by the inspiration?

That the sacred penmen were moved, directed and assisted by God, what to write, how to write, when to write and that they did write, in all respect and exactly as they were moved or directed by the Holy Spirit.

LESSON VI.

THE INSPIRATION OF THE SCRIPTURES.

1. Do the Scriptures give evidence of their own inspiration?

They do. The writers speak confidently and without fear. Consciousness of inspiration emboldened them. What

they wrote was superior to their own genius and wisdom. They professed to be inspired.

2. What is the testimony of the Apostle Peter?

Knowing this first, that no prophecy is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man; but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost. 2 Pet. 1: 20-21.

3. What is the testimony of the Apostle Paul?

(a) Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth. 1 Cor. 2: 13.

(b) But I certify you, brethren, that the gospel which was preached of me is not after man. For I neither received it of man neither was I taught it, but by the revelation of Jesus Christ. Gal. 1: 11, 12.

(c) All Scripture is given by inspiration of God. 2 Tim. 3: 16.

4. How far should the Old Testament be received in matters of faith and practice?

Such parts as express God's will in moral duties, and contain moral instruction, promote devotion and predict future events, should be received by faith and in practice.

5. Is the Mosaic or Jewish ritual obligatory upon Christians.

No. That ritual was abrogated when Christ taught the new dispensation.

6. Do not the Old and New Testament teach the same general religious truths?

They do. They declare the same God, the same Saviour, the same plan of mercy, the same repentance, the same

faith, and the same future state of rewards and punishments.

LESSON VII.

THE INSPIRATION OF THE SCRIPTURES

(Concluded.)

1. Should not all people possess the Scriptures?
They should ; and no one can be justified in withholding God's word from any human being.
2. For what are we to employ reason in studying the Scriptures?
To ascertain if the Bible is God's word, what it contains, and what is its meaning.
3. Are not some things in the Bible hard to be understood?
They are. But the sincere and diligent enquirer will clearly discover and understand the grand and essential truths.
4. Are not the essential truths sufficiently plain and intelligible?
They are. All capacities can comprehend what relates to faith and practice.

If any man will do his will, he shall know of the doctrine whether it be of God, or whether I speak of myself.
John 7: 17.

5. What are the principal evidences that the Bible is a revelation from God?

1. The teachings of history and the coincidence between sacred and profane history. 2. Miracles. 3. Prophecy. 4. Sublimity of the language. 5. Effects produced on the world. 6. The character of the writers. 7. The opposition of the Christian religion to the lusts and corrupt passions of mankind.

6. What estimate should we place on the Bible? It should be prized above all price.

The statutes of the Lord are right, rejoicing the heart: the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes. More to be desired are they than gold, yea, than much fine gold: sweeter than honey and the honey-comb. (Psalm 19: 8, 10.) Search the Scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of me. John 5: 39.

LESSON VIII.

THE BEING AND ATTRIBUTES OF GOD.

1. Is God a Spirit?

He is.

God is a Spirit: and they that worship him must worship him in spirit and in truth. John 4: 24.

2. Is God self-existing.

He is. He is styled "Jehovah," "I am," "Who is, who was, and who is to come."

And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I hath sent me unto you." Exodus 3: 14.

3. Is God eternal.

His self-existence indicates his eternity.

Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever thou hadst formed the earth and the world, even from everlasting to everlasting, thou art God." Psalm 90: 2.

4. Is God unchangeable?

The counsel of the Lord standeth forever, the thoughts of his heart to all generations. Psal. 33: 11. Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, and cometh down from the Father of lights, with whom is no variableness, neither shadow of turning." James 1:

5. Is God everywhere present?

He is.

Whither shall I go from thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from thy presence? If I ascend up into heaven, thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, thou art there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea: even there shall thy hand lead me, and thy right hand shall hold me. Psal. 139: 7-10.

6. Does God know all things?

The Lord searcheth all hearts, and understandeth all imaginations of the thoughts. (1 Chron. 28: 9.) Known unto God are all his works from the beginning of the world. Acts 15: 18.

7. Is God almighty?

With God all things are possible. (Matt. 19: 26.) And I heard as it were the voice of a great multitude, and as the voice of many waters, and as the voice of mighty thunderings, saying, Alleluia: for the Lord God omnipotent reigneth." Rev. 19: 6.

8. Is God independent?

His perfections teach that he is.

One God and Father of all, who is above all, and through all, and in you all. Eph. 4: 6.

LESSON IX.

THE DOCTRINE OF THE TRINITY.

1. Is the doctrine of three persons in the Godhead taught in the Scriptures?

The Bible only reveals to us the doctrine of the Trinity.

2. Is this doctrine of great importance?

The gospel is built wholly upon it. It bears upon the whole scheme of redemption, and is, therefore, the fundamental and essential article of the Christian religion.

3. Wherein does the mystery of the Trinity consist?

In the manner in which the three divine persons subsist in the divine essence, or in the Godhead.

4. Is any one excused from believing the doctrine, because it is a mystery?

By no means.

And without controversy great is the mystery of godliness: God was manifest in the flesh, justified in the Spirit, seen of angels, preached unto the Gentiles, believed on in the world, received up into glory." 1 Tim. 3: 16.

5. Does God reveal himself to us in three persons?

He does.

There are three that bear record in heaven--the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one. 1 John 5: 7.

6. On what occasion were the three persons of the Godhead made manifest?

At the baptism of Jesus.

And Jesus, when he was baptized, went up straightway out of the water: and, lo, the heavens were opened unto him, and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and lighting upon him; and lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased. Matt. 3: 16, 17.

LESSON X.

THE DOCTRINE OF THE TRINITY—Concluded.

1. Does the command for Christian baptism recognize this doctrine?

It certainly does.

Baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Matt. 28: 19.

2. Do we not seek divine blessings from all three persons of the Godhead?

We do, as in the Apostolic benediction

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Ghost, be with you all. Amen. 2. Cor. 13: 14.

3. Has each person of the Trinity a distinct place in the work of man's salvation?

Each has.

For through him (Christ) we both (Jews and Gentiles) have access by one Spirit unto the Father. Eph. 2: 18.

4. Is not the unity of the Godhead a motive to unity among the saints?

It is.

That they all may be one; as thou, Father, art in me, and I in thee, that they also may be one in us. John 17: 21.

5. Are the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit each truly and essentially divine?

The Scriptures teach that they are, in a

multitude of passages. To each person, divine names and titles are given ; divine attributes, prerogatives and works are associated ; divine offices are assigned, and divine worship and honors are paid. The Father must be God, the Son must be God, and the Holy Spirit must be God—each equal and divine in every perfection.

LESSON XI.

DIVINE PURPOSES.

What is meant by the purposes of God?

By God's purposes is meant His eternal and unchangeable pleasure, will or choice concerning all creatures and events, or whatever comes to pass in time or eternity.

Do God's purposes respect separate parts of the system, or the whole taken together?

His purposes extend to all things in the natural and moral worlds, as one great and harmonious whole.

What do you understand by His purpose of election?

His choice, will or pleasure, that the part of mankind who believe the truth, and are sanctified by the Spirit, shall

be eternally saved, and that the maining part who choose the way sin, voluntarily reject the salvation sincerely and freely offered to them the gospel, will be justly destroyed.

4. Are any saved simply because of their election?

None are saved simply because they were elected: but in consequence of embracing the Saviour, and conforming to the requisitions of the gospel. None perish because they were not elected. Voluntary persistence in sin and rejection of the Saviour, renders the wicked deserving of punishment.

5. Do God's purposes have any respect to the atonement of Christ or good works in man?

God's purposes are grounded on the interposition and atonement of Christ, and involve the repentance, faith, and obedience of the subjects of salvation. They are not founded upon the good actions of believers, but lay a foundation for them.

6. Has God a purpose in reference to the existence of all creatures and events, and especially in reference to the future condition of man?

He has.

For the Lord of Hosts hath purposed, and who shall annul it? and his hand is stretched out, and who shall turn it back? (Isaiah 41: 27.) And hath made of old

blood all the nations of men for to dwell on all the face of the earth, and hath determined the times before appointed, and the bounds of their habitation. (Acts 17: 26.) And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose. Rom. 8: 28.

LESSON XII.

DIVINE PURPOSES—Concluded.

1. In what way does God execute his purposes?
By giving existence to all things, and in preserving, governing and disposing of them.

The Lord of Hosts hath sworn, saying, Surely as I have thought, so shall it come to pass; and as I have purposed, so shall it stand. Isa. 14: 24.

2. Do God's purposes interrupt or destroy man's free moral agency?

They do not. Every man is conscious that God's purposes do not interrupt or destroy the voluntary exercise of his moral powers, as his moral freedom consists in acting as he pleases in view of motives.

3. Is not the doctrine of divine purposes a ground of encouragement to employ our powers to obtain our salvation in the way pointed out in the gospel?

It is. Divine purposes direct and encourage us to use the means of salvation, while planting in us faith as to the surety of salvation.

4. Are human beings saved without embracing the means of salvation?

By no means. God has purposed that there shall be no salvation without repentance, faith and holiness of life; therefore we should repent, believe and obey.

5. Are God's purposes the rule of our conduct? We should obey God's commands without asking what are God's purposes.

The secret things belong unto the Lord our God: but the things which are revealed belong unto us and to our children forever, that we may do all the words of the law. Deut. 29: 29.

6. Are not God's purposes altogether reasonable and proper?

They are according to his good pleasure, the fruit of his wisdom and goodness.

7. Should not the doctrine of divine purposes be preached and believed?

As it is a truth which God has revealed, it should be preached, and as it is the only foundation of the sinner's hope of eternal life, it should be embraced and believed.

The prophet that hath a dream, let him tell a dream; and he that hath my word, let him speak my word faithfully. What is the chaff to the wheat? saith the Lord. Jer. 23: 28.

LESSON XIII.

CREATION.

Who created all things?

Almighty God.

At the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.
Gen. 1: 1.

What is meant by creation?

The act of giving existence.

Did God simply speak all things into being?

He did.

God said, Let there be light: and there was light.
Gen. 1: 3.) Through faith we understand that the
worlds were framed by the word of God, so that things
which are seen were not made of things which do ap-
pear Heb. 11: 3.

How long was God in creating all things?

Six days.

In six days the Lord made heaven and earth, the sea,
and all that in them is. Ex. 20: 11.

What are the works of creation?

All finite existences, animate and inani-
mate.

By him were all things created, that are in heaven,
and that are in earth, visible and invisible, whether
they be thrones, or dominions, or principalities, or
powers: all things were created by him and for him.
Col. 1: 16.

In what state did God create all things?

In the most perfect state.

God saw everything that he had made, and, behold,
it was very good. Gen. 1: 31.

7. What end had God in view in creating things?

His own supreme glory and the supreme good of the universe.

For of him, and through him, and to him, are all things, whom be glory forever. Rom. 11 : 36.

8. How long is it since the world was created?
About 4000 years before Christ.

9. In what season of the year did the world begin to exist?

Astronomical calculations, and the present state of the fruits of the earth indicate autumn.

For the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was not a man to till the ground. Gen. 2 : 5.

10. On what day did God rest?

The seventh.

On the seventh day God ended his work which he had made; and he rested on the seventh day from all his work which he had made. Gen. 2 : 2.

11. Did not the work of creation cease when God rested?

It did.

For he that is entered into his rest, he also hath ceased from his own works, as God did from his. Heb. 4 : 10.

LESSON XIV.

GOD'S PROVIDENCE.

1. What is meant by God's providence?

His superintendence and direction of all events, by the council of his own will.

Is his providence universal?

It is.

kingdom ruleth over all. Psalm 103: 19.

Does it extend to brutes?

It does.

se wait all upon thee; that thou mayest give them their meat in due season. That thou givest them they gather: thou openest thine hand, they are filled with good. Psalm 104: 27, 28.

Are inanimate things included?

They are.

binds the sweet influences of the Pleiades, and looses the bands of Orion. Job 38: 31.

Does God maintain the laws of nature?

He does.

appointeth the moon for seasons, the sun knoweth his going down. Psalm 104: 19.

Has he not suspended these laws at will?

He has.

he sun stood still in the midst of heaven, and hasted not to go down about a whole day. Josh. 10: 13.

Does God's providence limit our lives?

It does.

's days are determined, the number of his months are with thee: thou hast appointed his bounds that he cannot pass. Job 14: 5.

Does it limit kingdoms and human societies?

It does.

changeth the times and the seasons: he removeth kings, and setteth up kings. Dan. 2: 21.

Does God take special care of some persons

He does.

is the Saviour of all men, especially of those that believe. 1 Tim. 4: 10.

LESSON XV.

ANGELS.

1. Were any beings already in existence when God created the world?

There were.

Who laid the corner stone thereof: when the morning stars sang together, and all the sons of God shouted for joy? Job 38: 6, 7.

2. What suggests their existence?

The works of creation and the light of nature suggest it, and the Bible speaks of them in more than one hundred places.

3. With what nature were they created?

Holy.

When the son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory. (Matt. 25: 31.) Are they not all ministering spirits sent forth to minister for them who shall be heirs of salvation? Heb. 1: 14.

4. What do the Scriptures teach is the number of the angels?

Vastly great and innumerable.

Thousand thousands ministered unto him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him. (Daniel 10.) And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God. Luke 2: 13. Heb. 12: 22.

5. Why are angels called by different names?

They are called *spirits*, because immaterial and invisible; *angels*, because messengers or agents of Jehovah; *cherubim*, because of their extensive knowledge.

edge ; *seraphim*, because of their holy zeal ; *sons of God*, because they bear the impress of his image ; *morning stars*, because of their splendid nature and early creation ; *thrones, dominions, principalities*, and *powers*, because of their lofty nature, high character, and sublime employments.

Is any one of these beings above all others in rank ?

Michael is probably the chief angel.

Michael, the arch-angel (or chief angel,) when contending with the devil, (he disputed about the body of Moses,) durst not bring against him a railing accusation, but said, The Lord rebuke thee? Jude 9:1 Thess. 16.

How are the holy angels employed ?

In administering the affairs of this world, and in ministering to them who shall be heirs of salvation.

Angel of the Lord encampeth round about them that are his, and delivereth them. Psalm 34: 7.

LESSON XVI.

ANGELS—Continued.

Is a Saviour provided for apostate angels ?

None.

For the angels which kept not their first estate, but left their own habitation, he hath reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day. Jude 6.

2. What are the names in Scripture of angels?

They are called devils; the chief Satan, Dragon, Serpent, Angel of bottomless pit, Abaddon, Apollyon, Accuser of the brethen, Lucifer, Beelzebub, Prince of Devils, Prince of power of the air and god of this world.

3. Do apostate angels exert any influence in the world?

Invisibly they exert themselves and draw mankind into sin.

Be sober, be vigilant; because your adversary the devil, as a roaring lion, walketh about, seeking whom he may devour. 1 Peter 5: 8.

4. Is not the number of fallen angels immense?

Innumerable.

And he asked him, What is thy name? And he answered saying, My name is Legion; for we are many. Luke 9: 1.

5. Are redeemed souls destined in the future to be as angels?

Certainly.

Neither can they die any more: for they are equal unto the angels; and are the children of God, being children of the resurrection. Luke 20: 36.

6. Are not all sinners, to a great extent, under the influence of the chief apostate angel, Satan? Paul positively affirms it.

The god of this world hath blinded the minds of them that believe not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine unto them. 2 Cor. 4: 4.

if they continue under this influence, will they not be punished?

Without doubt.

shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels. Matt. 25: 41.

LESSON XVII.

MAN'S CREATION.

When did God create man?

Before the coming of Christ 4004 years.

The evening and the morning were the sixth day. Gen. 1: 5.

In what state did God create man?

Rature, intelligent and holy.

God created man in his own image, in the image of God created he him; male and female created he them. And God saw everything that he had made, and, behold, it was very good. Gen. 1: 27, 31.

Was man a simple or compound being?

Compound--having a body and soul.

The Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living soul. Genesis 2: 7; Eccles. 12: 7; Luke 20: 36.

What is the duration of man's existence?

His body is mortal, his soul immortal.

The days of our years are threescore years and ten; and by reason of strength they be fourscore years, yet is our strength labor and sorrow; for it is soon cut off, and we fly away. Psalm 90: 10.

5. How is man related to the lower world?

He is its constituted head and lord.

Thou madest him to have dominion over the works of his hands; thou hast put all things under his feet.

6. What was the residence of the first human pair?

The garden of Eden.

And the Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden, and there he put the man whom he had formed. Gen. 2: 8.

7. What was man's chief happiness in his primitive state?

Knowing, loving, serving, and praising God as Creator, Preserver and Ruler.

LESSON XVIII.

MAN'S CREATION—Continued.

1. When did the moral probation of our first parents commence?

As soon as life commenced, their moral trial commenced.

And the Lord God took the man, and put him in the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, saying. Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die. Gen. 2: 15-17.

2. Were there any men before Adam?

There were not.

The first Adam was made a living soul. 1 Cor. 15: 45.

Was woman created along with man?

She was.

Male and female created he them. Gen. 5: 2.

Was the manner of their creation different?

It was.

And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof; and the rib, which the Lord God had taken from the man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man. (Gen. 2: 21, 22.) For the man is not of the woman, but the woman of the man. 1 Cor. 11: 8.

Are all men derived from Adam?

God hath made of one blood all the nations of men. Acts 17: 26.

How is Adam related to his posterity?

He is our natural head by ordinary generation and our federal or representative head in our moral state.

LESSON XIX.

THE MORAL LAW.

What is the moral law?

It is our rule of obedience and life which God gave to our first parents in their original state, and is founded in the nature and relation of intelligent beings.

2. How was the moral law at first delivered mankind?

It was impressed on their consciences and written on their hearts.

For when the Gentiles, which have not the law, do by nature the things contained in the law, these, having not the law, are a law unto themselves; which shew the work of the law written in their hearts, their conscience also bearing witness, and their thoughts meanwhile accusing or else excusing one another. Rom. 2: 14, 15.

3. What is the character of this law?

It is spiritual, perfect, immutable.

Wherefore the law is holy, and the commandment holy and just, and good. Rom. 7: 12.

4. Is obedience to this law required by God?
God requires perpetual, personal, universal obedience.

Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them. Gal. 3: 10.

5. Has the law a sanction?

Eternal happiness to him who obeys, and eternal misery to him who disobeys, is its sanction.

For the wages of sin is death. Rom. 6: 23.

6. Is it sinful and dangerous to deviate from the law?

Certainly.

Whosoever committeth sin transgresseth the law: for sin is the transgression of the law. 1 John 3: 4.

LESSON XX.

THE MORAL LAW—Continued.

Is sin external or internal?

Both. All sins proceed from the heart.

Out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies. Matt. 15: 19; 1 Sam. 16: 7.

Are all sins of equal grade?

They are not. From their nature, the character of the person offending or offended, and other circumstances, they are more or less aggravated.

Where can a summary of the moral law be found?

In the ten commandments. Ex. 20: 3-17.
(Commit to memory.)

What do the first four commandments comprise?

Our duty to God.

What do the last six commandments embrace?

Our duty to ourselves and our fellow creatures.

On what two commandments hang all the law and the prophets?

Jesus said unto him, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like unto it, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself. On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets. Matt. 22: 37-40; Rom. 13: 10.

13. What was the design of the prohibition in God's first positive precept?

It was to test the conduct of our parents.

And the Lord God commanded the man saying, Of the tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: but of the tree of knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it. Gen. 2: 16, 17.

LESSON XXI.

ORIGINAL APOSTASY.

1. How did our first parents apostatize?
By eating of the forbidden fruit. (Gen. 3: 6.)

But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die. Gen. 2: 17.

2. Did they fall from their original moral rectitude?
They did.

Lo, this only have I found, that God hath made man upright; but they have sought out many inventions. Eccles. 7: 29.

3. Did Adam cause the depravity and sinfulness of our race?
He was merely the occasion of it.

4. Are Adam's descendants guilty because they sinned in eating the forbidden fruit?

The sins of Adam and his posterity are perfectly distinct, as moral actings; holiness and sin are personal and transferrable.

Should Adam be charged with the sins of the human race?

It is not just to do so. Adam is answerable only for his own sins, and his posterity only for theirs.

Fathers shall not be put to death for the children, neither shall the children be put to death for the father: every man shall be put to death for his own in. Deut. 24: 16.

What is original sin?

Innate sinfulness of the human heart. Adam's sin decided the moral character, and gave occasion to the native depravity of all his posterity.

LESSON XXII.

ATONEMENT.

How is the word atonement derived?

From the words *At-one*, and the ending *ment*.

What is understood by the doctrine of the atonement?

A plan or provision made for the salvation of sinful human beings, through the sufferings and death of Jesus Christ.

What is this plan or provision?

This plan or provision consists in Christ dying in our stead, and thereby satis-

fying divine justice and making known the righteousness of God: so that we can be just while He grants pardon and salvation to all who believe.

Whom God hath sent forth to be a propitiation through faith in his blood, to declare his righteousness for remission of sins that are past, through the forgiveness of God; to declare, I say, at this time his righteousness: that he might be just, and the justifier of him which believeth on Jesus. Rom. 3: 25, 26; Hebrews 10, 11; Rom. 5: 10; Isaiah 53: 5, 10, 11; Phil. 2: 8.

4. For what was the death of Christ a substitute?

The death of Christ was a substitute for the just punishment of sinners, inasmuch as it answered the same general ends in his moral government. Christ did not destroy the law but fulfilled it.

5. Did Christ's suffering affect his body or mind or both?

Both, though they were chiefly mental. In his mental sufferings the atonement principally consisted.

For Christ also hath once suffered for sins, the just for the unjust, that he might bring us to God, being crucified in the flesh, but quickened by the Spirit. (1 Peter 3: 18.) Then saith he unto them, My soul is exceeding sorrowful, even unto death. Matt. 26: 38.

6. Did Christ's humanity or divinity suffer both?

Christ's human nature, body and mind only suffered. His divine nature enabled him to endure the evils that were laid upon him.

LESSON XXIII.

ATONEMENT—Continued.

Were the sufferings of Christ a punishment inflicted upon him?

An innocent being may suffer, but cannot be punished. Christ must be considered as bearing in some sense the punishment due to our sins.

Was the atonement necessary?

It was necessary to show God's hatred of sin, love of holiness, and the harmony between his justice and mercy.

Did Christ's death set forth its necessity?

It did.

God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. (John 3:16.) For it became him, for whom are all things, and by whom are all things, in bringing many sons unto glory, to make the captain of their salvation perfect through suffering. Heb. 2:10; Matt. 26:39.

Do not both Old and New Testament afford testimony to the necessity of an atonement?

They do.

The life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul. (Lev. 17:11.) In whom we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of sins, according to the riches of his grace. Eph. 1:7; Heb. 9:22. Rev. 5:9; 7:14.

5. Can repentance and obedience atone sufficiently for sin or be a ground of pardon?
 Repentance cannot change the nature of sin, nor repair the injury it has done. Obedience cannot obliterate past crimes or mischief.

LESSON XXIV.

REGENERATION.

1. What is meant by the new birth or regeneration?

A radical, holy, moral change in the affections of the heart.

Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature; old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. 2 Cor. 5:17; 1 John 4:7; Eph. 4:22-24.

2. Do we reach sinless perfection in this life?

The supposition is contrary to Scripture.

For there is not a just man upon earth, that doeth good and sinneth not. (Eccles 7:20.) If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is in us. If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us. 1 John 1:8; Romans 7:24; John 9:20; Prov. 20:34; Psalm 51:1.

3. Is regeneration immediate or progressive?

Regeneration, or the commencement of holiness in the soul, is immediate. Sanctification, or the increase of holiness in the soul, is progressive. “P

ing from death unto life," "new birth," "new creation," are terms implying instantaneous effect.

1. Cannot a regenerate soul be satisfied as to the time of the new birth?

He can, by the experience of the change in his feelings, desires and affections.

2. Is salvation possible to an adult person without regeneration?

It is not.

Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God. (John 3: 3-7.) Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord. Hebrews 12: 14; Romans 8: 7, 8: 1 Cor. 2: 14.

3. Can any change take place in the character of men after death?

None.

He that is unjust, let him be unjust still: and he which is filthy, let him be filthy still: and he that is righteous, let him be righteous still: and he that is holy, let him be holy still. Rev. 22: 11 Eccl. 9: 10.

4. Who is the author of regeneration?

God, the Holy Spirit, is the efficient agent in regeneration.

Not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost. (Titus 3: 5.) Which were born not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of the man, but of God. John 1: 13; Ezek. 36: 26.

LESSON XXV.

REGENERATION—Continued.

1. Is not regeneration an act of God's sovereign will?
It is. He renews whom, at what time, and by what means he pleases.

So then it is not of him that willeth, nor of him that can, but of God that sheweth mercy. (Rom. 9: 16.) Of his own will begat he us with the word of truth, that we should be a kind of first fruits of his creature. (James 1: 18; 1 Cor. 3: 6, 7.)

2. Is man's moral freedom impaired or destroyed in his regeneration?

Sinners are perfectly conscious that the change effected in regeneration they are free from compulsion and exercise a perfect moral agency.

3. Is the influence of the Holy Spirit in regeneration special or general?

It is special, because it produces effects not common to mankind in general; it is irresistible in the sense of overcoming all resistance, as God makes his subjects willing in the day of his power.

Thy people shall be willing in the day of thy power, the beauties of holiness from the womb of the morning: thou hast the dew of thy youth. Psalm 134.

4. What renders the influence of the Spirit necessary to change the heart?

Man's disaffection to God, and unwillingness to do his duty, on which account he is the greater criminal.

1 ye will not come to me that ye might have life. John 5: 40.

Is man active or passive in regeneration?

Both. He acts freely, while he is acted upon by the Holy Spirit. He is required to make himself a new heart: and God gives him a new heart.

Work out your own salvation with fear and trembling. For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure. (Phil. 2: 12, 13.) A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and I will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. Ezek. 36: 26.

What are the evidences of regeneration?

1. Faith and joy in the doctrines of the Bible.
2. Delight in religious society.
3. Ardent desire for the triumph of Christ's cause.
4. Humility and meekness.
5. Good will to all men and complacency towards Christians.
6. Hatred of sin and desire of holiness.
7. Obedience to the commands of God.

Know that we have passed from death unto life, because we love the brethren. He that loveth not his brother abideth in death. (1 John 3: 14.) And hereby do we know that we know him, if we keep his commandments. 1 John 2: 3; Romans 8: 14, 16; Malachi 3: 16; John 3: 8; Psalm 84: 2; 119: 97; Matt. 11: 29.

Are not the greatest number of Christians converted in youth?

Much the greatest number are renewed in the younger part of life—though some are regenerated in infancy, some in manhood, and a few in old age.

LESSON XXVI.

REPENTANCE.

1. What is the meaning of the word repentance?
The Greek word translated repentance means change of mind, coming to one's senses.
2. What is legal repentance?
Sorrow for sin, because it exposes to punishment; such as thieves and murderers exhibit when detected and brought to justice. They sorrow for the consequences of sin, and not for sin itself.
Matt. 27: 3-5.
3. What is true evangelical repentance?
A sense and hatred of sin; a sense of the love of holiness, turning from sin to holiness, attended with hope of forgiveness through Christ's merits, followed by obedience to God's commands. It is not mere gratitude, remorse, pity, sympathy or fear of punishment. Joel 2: 12-13; Ezek. 6: 36: 31; Isa. 55: 7.
4. Why should we repent?
Because sin is base and hateful to God and a violation of his law.
5. Is repentance indispensable to pardon and salvation?
The Bible so teaches.

pent ye, therefore, and be converted; that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord. Acts 3: 19; Luke 13: 3.

Is repentance an immediate duty?

Jesus says, Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand. (Matt. 4: 17.) Paul says, But now (God) commandeth all men everywhere to repent. Acts 17: 30; Luke 24: 47; Heb. 3: 7, 8.

LESSON XXVII.

REPENTANCE—Continued.

Must we repent in the present life?

We must. There is no time for repentance after death.

whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might; for there is no work, nor device, nor knowledge, nor wisdom, in the grave, whither thou goest. Eccles. 9: 10.

Are not the exercises of repentance different among Christians?

They are, because of differing natural or constitutional feelings, and different operations of the Holy Spirit.

Who is the agent in the repentance of a sinner?

It is man who repents, but it is the Holy Spirit of God who gives him repentance.

God, peradventure, will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth. 2 Tim. 2: 25.

Are there any exercises of mind preceding repentance?

There are. 1. Reflections of God's moral excellence. 2. Comparison of

our conduct with the requirements of God's law. 3. Meditation on the future misery of the finally impenitent. 4. Thoughts on God's goodness and Christ's sufferings. 5. Remorse, conviction of sin, and fearful foreboding of the wrath to come.

5. What are the evidences of true repentance? Reform in manners and performance of christian duties.

Bring forth, therefore, fruits meet for repentance. *Mat. 3: 8.*

6. Are the inhabitants of heaven interested in the sinner's conversion?

I say unto you, that likewise joy shall be in heaven over one sinner that repenteth, more than over ninety-nine just persons, which need no repentance. *Mat. 15: 7.*

LESSON XXVIII.

FAITH AND ITS FRUITS.

1. What is faith?

Assent of the understanding to the word of God, approval by the heart of the plan of salvation, and cordial trust in God, through Jesus Christ.

He that believeth on the Son of God hath the witness in himself: he that believeth not God, hath made himself a liar: because he believeth not the word that God hath sent of his Son. *1 John 5: 10; Heb. 11: 1; Gal. 5: 6.*

What phrases in the Scriptures denote saving faith?

“Knowing the truth,” “Coming to the knowledge of the truth,” “Receiving Christ,” “Trusting in him,” “Looking to him,” “Coming to him,” and “Believing on him.”

3. What is historic faith?

Mere speculative belief in historic records.

Through faith we understand that the worlds were formed by the word of God, so that things which we see were not made of things which do appear. (Heb. 11: 3.) Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone. James 2: 17.

What is miraculous faith?

Belief in ability by divine power, produced by the Spirit of God, to work a miracle, or that another can work a miracle.

Ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place, and it shall remove: and nothing shall be impossible unto you. Matt. 17: 20; Acts 14: 9, 10; 1 Cor. 13: 2.

Who manifested miraculous faith?

The prophets, apostles, and some primitive christians.

How long did this continue?

Probably, in a greater or less degree, to the third century of the christian era.

Why was it given?

To furnish undoubted evidence of the truth of Christianity.

8. What is false faith in the light of the gospel?
Holding the truth of the gospel in unrighteousness, or assent to its truth without corresponding influence on the heart.

Thou believest that there is one God: thou doest well; devils also believe and tremble. (James 2: 19.) the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against ungodliness, and unrighteousness of men, who have the truth in unrighteousness. Romans 1: 18; Acts 13, 20, 21.

LESSON XXIX.

FAITH AND ITS FRUITS—Continued.

1. Is faith the just, suitable and grand condition of salvation?

It is, as it honors God and restores man to his original state.

2. Is it a meritorious ground of salvation?

It is not. It is the spiritual process by which the soul is united to Christ and made a partaker of his benefits.

For by grace are ye saved through faith. (Eph. 2: 8.) that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but that believeth not shall be damned. Mark 16: 16.

3. Is the exercise of faith voluntary?

It is the voluntary act of man, while the gift of God.

For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God. (Eph. 2: 8.) Look unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith. Hebrews 12: 2.

How is faith aroused and strengthened?

1. Extraordinarily, by the Holy Spirit.

2. Ordinarily, by the preached gospel, by reading God's word, by the ordinances, by prayer and other means of grace. Rom. 10: 14, 17.

What is the fruit of faith?

Obedience to God and good will to mankind. James 2: 21-26.

What is the character of faith without works? Speculative, dead, and delusive to the soul.

Is so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone James 2: 17.

Will mere belief of sin forgiven, of Christ's dying for you in particular, and that you will be saved, entitle you to confidence that you have saving faith?

No. A person must also love God and man, and obey the divine precepts.

LESSON XXX.

JUSTIFICATION.

What is justification?

God's acceptance of a sinner, implying pardon of sin.

Does justification make a sinner holy or just?

It does not. The sinner, in the eye of

the law, is declared holy or just, treated, as respects a future state though he had never sinned.

3. What is legal justification?

Justification according to the stern demands of the law—by works, ceremonial, judicial or moral.

4. What is evangelical justification?

Justification on account of the righteousness or merit of Christ, commonly called imputed righteousness, and on account of any personal or inherited righteousness.

Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin. Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith, without the deeds of the law. Rom. 20, 28; 4: 3, 7.

5. In what way is a sinner justified?

By grace through faith. Faith accepts Christ. The grace of God is the source of the righteousness or atonement. Christ the ground, and faith the instrument, of justification.

Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus. (Rom. 3: 24.) The being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Rom. 5: 1; 3: 22; 2: 16-21; Phil. 3: 9.

6. At what time is the sinner justified?

When, after sincere repentance, voluntarily he applies to the blood of Christ.

for the pardon of sins past, and he indulges in sincere faith, that his future sins will be pardoned, when he applies to the same source.

How are good works to be regarded in the light of justification?

As an expression of good faith and an evidence of justification.

Are mankind justified partly by works and partly by faith?

Mankind are not justified by works, nor partly by works and partly by faith, but wholly by faith.

Therefore by the deeds of the law there shall no flesh be justified in his sight: for by the law is the knowledge of sin. Therefore we conclude that a man is justified by faith, without the deeds of the law. Rom. 3: 20, 28.

LESSON XXXI.

JUSTIFICATION—Continued.

Do Paul and James agree respecting the doctrine of justification?

They do. Paul taught that a man was not justified by works but by faith, but he meant that faith which works by love and constrains to obedience. James taught that a man was not justified by faith, meaning a mere speculative faith, but by works, as an evi-

dence of that loving or working which is the instrumental cause of justification. Rom. 3: 26-31; Jam. 20-24.

2. Does justification by faith make void the law? Certainly not. It establishes the law, promotes practical godliness, and preserves free grace.

Do we then make void the law through faith? God forbid: yea, we establish the law. Rom. 3: 31.

3. Who is the author of justification?

God. The Father appoints the way, The Son prepares it. The Holy Spirit makes known the way, and induces the sinner to walk in it.

4. What are the results of justification to the justified?

Peace and happiness from God, gratification of access to him in religious duties, hope of everlasting salvation. The fruits of the Spirit enjoyed, are evidences of the believing justified state.

5. How important is this doctrine?

It affects more or less all the doctrines, experience and practice of christianity. It is vital to the system of religion once delivered to the saints.

But though we or an angel from heaven preach any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached unto you, let him be accursed. Gal. 1: 8, 9.

Will not our works in this state, after regeneration, place us higher or lower in the future, according to the measure of our faith?

Such appears to be the general tenor of New Testament teachings.

LESSON XXXII.

PERSEVERANCE OF THE SAINTS.

What is meant by the perseverance of the saints?

That all who are truly regenerated by the Spirit of God will be preserved from total and final apostasy from the state of grace, and will persevere in holiness unto the end of life, continuing in a state of trial until they reach a state of glory, preserved by God through faith unto salvation.

How do the saints persevere?

Aided by God's grace, they persist in the use of all the means divinely appointed.

Do the Scriptures teach this doctrine plainly?

They do: and all the other doctrines of grace imply this doctrine.

Righteous also shall hold on his way, and he that hath clean hands shall be stronger and stronger. (Job 9.) For I am persuaded, that neither death, nor angels, nor principalities, nor powers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor height, nor

depth, nor any other creature, shall be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ our Lord. (Rom. 8: 38, 39.) Who are kept by the power of God through faith unto salvation, shall never be revealed in the last time. 1 Peter 1: 4, 5.

4. Do the Scriptures anywhere teach total final apostasy?

They do not. Alexander, Hymenæus, Philetus and Judas were hypocrites who apostatized, not saints.

Many will say unto me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? and in thy name cast out devils? and in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work in vain. Matt. 7: 22, 23.

LESSON XXXIII.

PERSEVERANCE OF THE SAINTS—Continued

1. Do not christians sin?

They sin daily, sometimes awfully. David, Solomon and Peter, by their sins, fell under God's fatherly displeasure.

2. If christians become stationary, backslide from the comforts of religion, or sink into dissipation, does not the Holy Spirit preserve them and restore them to the Father's smile?

The Holy Spirit will uphold them.

The steps of a good man are ordered by the Lord: he will not stumble. Though he fall, he shall not be utterly cast down: for the Lord upholdeth him with his hand. (Psa. 37: 23, 24.) And I give unto them eternal life: and they shall never perish, neither shall any man pluck them out of my hand. John 10: 28, 29.

Ought not a professor of religion to fear that his hope is delusive if he does not persevere in a christian life?

No one has evidence of being a christian unless he lives the life of a christian.

Do the commands and exhortations to persevere in holiness, or the warnings in the Scriptures against apostasy, imply that christians may apostatize?

By no means. They only prove the liability of a christian to fall, and that he does fall. They are suppositions used to secure christians from apostasy.

What effect should this doctrine produce upon genuine believers?

It should console the weak, arouse all to self-examination, and encourage them to work out their salvation with fear and trembling. Certainty of result does not supersede necessity of means, but lays a foundation for their use.

LESSON XXXIV.

DEATH.

Is death the lot of all mankind?

Except Enoch and Elijah, all have died to the present generation, and all who now live or hereafter may live will die,

except such as are alive on earth at Christ's second appearing, who will be changed as to their bodies, and go into eternity without seeing death. Heb. 11: 5-27; 1 Cor. 15: 51, 52.

2. What is death?

The extinction of animal life, the separation of soul and body.

3. Had not mankind sinned, would they have died?

If they had not sinned, they would probably, like Enoch and Elijah, have been translated to heaven at the close of their probation.

4. Who is the author of death?

God.

For I know that thou wilt bring me to death, and thine house appointed for all living. Job. 30: 23; Deut. 32: 6.

5. For what reason does God inflict death upon mankind?

To display his justice, and because death is necessary to introduce some change or some new state of existence into the future world.

6. What effect has death upon the human race?

It puts a limit to all earthly things, and levels all human distinctions.

LESSON XXXV.

DEATH—Continued.

How will death affect the wicked?

It will end all their carnal enjoyments and hopes, and fix them in an endless state of misery. Prov. 11: 7; Matt. 25: 46.

How will it affect the righteous?

It will close their sufferings, remove natural and moral evil, and admit them to heaven and its joys.

I heard a voice from heaven saying unto me, Write these things, for the dead which die in the Lord from henceforth: Yea, saith the Spirit, that they may rest from their labors; and their works do follow them. Rev. 13; Isa. 57: 1.

Ought not all mankind to be ever prepared for death?

They ought.

Be ye ready: for in such an hour as ye think not, the Son of man cometh. Matt. 24: 44; Eccles. 9: 18

What prepares for death?

A new heart and an obedient life.

Nay: but, except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish. Luke 13: 3.

How should the subject of death be treated?

As it is a terrible event to all, in view of the judgment, it should be regarded with deep solemnity.

LESSON XXXVI.

THE FUTURE STATE.

1. Are there strong evidences of a future state?
 There are. 1. The immateriality of the soul. 2. The several changes of animated creatures before they reach their most perfect condition. 3. The soul's capability of eternal progress in knowledge, happiness and holiness. 4. Man's ardent desires and hope of immortality. 5. Conscience and its powers. 6. Unequal distribution of justice in this state. 7. The general belief of mankind in all ages.

2. Is there not a convincing analogy between the present state and a future state?

The fact that a man lives up to the moment of dying is proof that he will live in an after state, because there is no reason to suppose that this is the end of his being.

3. In what state will mankind exist in the life to come?

In an active, conscious, happy or unhappy state, as they may be holy, or unholy at death.

But Abraham said, Son, remember that thou in thy lifetime receivest thy good things, and likewise thy evil things; but now he is comforted, and thou art tormented. Luke 17: 22, 23, 25; 23: 43; 2 Cor. 5:

Will we pass into the state of happiness or misery immediately after death?

The soul will not sleep or lie dormant till the general resurrection, but will be active and sensible of joy or misery.

Wicked shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal. Matt. 25: 46.

LESSON XXXVII.

THE FUTURE STATE—Continued.

What is meant by an intermediate state?

One in which the soul exists, happy or miserable, between the death and resurrection of the body.

What is the condition and prospect of those who are in the intermediate state?

In a condition of joy or misery according to character, looking forward to the general resurrection, the general judgment, and the eternal state of retribution.

Will human beings forgive, act and have intercourse with one another in a future state?

We do not know how spirits perceive, act and associate, but we have no evidence that they do not perceive, act and associate together in another world.

4. Are the soul's faculties enlarged and more susceptible of joy or misery in future state?

Undoubtedly they will improve infinitely, and be prepared for greater joys and sorrows.

5. Do the Scriptures give absolute assurance of a future state?

They do.

But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Lord Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. (2 Tim. 1: 10.) For we know that if our house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we should be a building of God, an house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. 2 Cor. 5: 1; Eccles. 12: 7; 10: 28; 22: 32; 17: 3.

LESSON XXXVIII.

RESURRECTION.

1. Will there be a resurrection of the body after death?

Nature indicates it, revelation positively asserts it. The doctrine is not contrary to reason, although above it, and is therefore not incredible.

2. What facts do the Scriptures present to corroborate this doctrine?

Enoch and Elijah were translated, soul and body, to heaven; Jairus's daughter, the widow's son at Nain.

and Lazarus were raised ; Christ raised himself, and many dead bodies were literally raised at his crucifixion.

Do the Old and New Testament both teach this doctrine ?

They do.

Though after my skin worms destroy this body, yet my flesh shall I see God : whom I shall see for myself, and mine eyes shall behold, and not another ; though my reins be consumed within me. (Job 19 : 27.) Marvel not at this : for the hour is coming, in which all that are in the grave shall hear his voice, and shall come forth ; they that have done good, unto the resurrection of life ; and they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of damnation. John 5 : 28, Acts 24 : 15.

What is meant by the resurrection of the dead ?
Raising from the dead to life of the bodies of mankind, incorruptible and reuniting them to their souls.

Will the same body that is deposited in the earth be raised ?

All that is essential to constitute the same body will be raised. 1 Cor. 15 : 35-44.

Is it possible to raise the dead ?

Infinite power can do it. It cannot be more difficult to raise the dead than it was to create the body at first from the dust.

Should it be thought a thing incredible with you, that God should raise the dead ? Acts 26 : 8.

LESSON XXXIX.

RESURRECTION—Continued.

1. Will the raised bodies of both the righteous and the wicked be united to the souls which they were connected in this life?
They will.

Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed. For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal must put on immortality. But every one in his own order: the first fruits, afterwards they that are Christ's, at his coming. 1 Cor. 15: 51-53.

2. When will the dead be raised?

At the end of the world, the time of the general judgment. 1 Thess. 4: 1.

3. By whom will the dead be raised?

It will be effected instrumentally by the archangel's trumpet, sounded at Christ's order, and attended with his all-quicken- ing power.

For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first. 1 Cor. 4: 16.

4. What will be the character of the body raised?

The bodies of the wicked will be raised mortal and immortal, but in dishonor and in lasting contempt. The bodies of the righteous will be spiritual, incorruptible and glorious.

all change our vile body, that it may be fashioned unto his glorious body, according to the working whereby he is able even to subdue all things unto himself. (Phil. 3: 21.) And many of them that sleep in the dust of the earth shall wake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. (1 Cor. 15: 2.) It is sown a natural body, it is raised a spiritual body. There is a natural body and there is a spiritual body. 1 Cor. 15: 35-44.

all we know each other hereafter in the resurrection body?

certainly we will. Spirits in the intermediate state know each other.

hold, there appeared unto them Moses and Elias living with him. Matt. 17: 3.

the doctrine of the resurrection essential to Christianity?

the whole gospel stands or falls with this doctrine, especially with the resurrection of Christ.

Christ be preached that he rose from the dead, how can some among you that there is no resurrection of the dead? But if there be no resurrection of the dead, is Christ not risen: and if Christ be not risen, is our preaching vain, and your faith is also vain. 1 Cor. 15: 12-14.

LESSON XL.

THE JUDGMENT.

all there be a future general judgment?
reason and Revelation so teach.

he hath appointed a day in the which he will judge the world in righteousness by that man whom he hath ordained; whereof he hath given assurance unto all men, in that he hath raised him from the dead. (Acts 17: 31.) And as it is appointed unto men once to die, after this the judgment. Heb. 9: 27.

2. What is meant by the general judgment?
The general public trial of angels and men, whether holy or unholy.
3. Does not the probation of angels and men imply a general judgment?

So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God. (Rom. 14: 12.) And the angels which were kept in their first estate, but left their own habitation, are reserved in everlasting chains under darkness unto the judgment of the great day. Jude 6.

4. When will the day of judgment be?
At the end of the world.

When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory: and before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats: he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left. Matt. 25: 31-33.

5. Do the Scriptures teach how long the judgment day or time of judgment will continue?
A day, used in relation to this system of things, means a period of time sufficient to accomplish all the purposes of judgment.

LESSON XLI.

THE JUDGMENT—Continued.

6. Where will be the place of judgment?
Probably in the air; certainly in the most suitable.

Then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord. 1 Thess. 4: 17.

Who will be the Judge?

The Lord Jesus Christ.

For the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory. Matt. 25: 31.

What is the particular design of the general judgment?

That all mankind may perceive most clearly the equity of every sentence that is passed.

By what rule will Jesus Christ judge men and angels?

The heathen, by the light of nature; those who have had the Bible, by its teachings.

As many as have sinned without law shall also perish without law; and as many as have sinned in the law shall be judged by the law; in the day when God shall judge the secrets of men by Jesus Christ according to my gospel. Rom. 2: 12-16.

For what will men and angels be judged?

For all their moral conduct.

We must all appear before the judgment seat of Christ; that every one may receive the things done in his body, according to that he hath done, whether it be good or bad. 2 Cor. 5: 10; Eccles. 12: 14; Rev. 20: 12, 13.

What sentence will the Judge pronounce?

He shall the King say unto them on his right hand, Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels. And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal. Matt. 25: 34, 41, 46.

LESSON XLII.

FUTURE HAPPINESS.

1. Do the Scriptures teach there is a future of happiness for the righteous?

They do.

To him that overcometh will I grant to sit with me throne, even as I also overcame, and am set down my Father in his throne. (Rev. 3: 21.) Thou shew me the path of life: in thy presence is joy; at thy hand are pleasures for evermore 16: 11.

2. Will this state continue forever?

It will be without end.

And these shall go away into everlasting punishment; but the righteous into life eternal Matt. 25: 46; 4: 17.

3. Where will the ransomed spirits reside?

In heaven, or the third heaven or he of heavens.

I knew a man in Christ about fourteen years ago, (whether in the body, I cannot tell; or whether out of the body, I cannot tell; God knoweth;) such an one caught up to the third heaven. (2 Cor. 12: 2.) But will he dwell on the earth? behold, the heaven of heavens cannot contain thee. 1 Kin

4. Is heaven a place or a state?

It is a place.

But ye are come unto Mount Sion, and unto the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem. (Heb. 12: 22.) But now we desire a better country, that is an heavenly. Heb. 11: 16; Luke 23: 43; 2 Cor. 5: 1.

5. What is the condition of the redeemed in heaven?

Perfectly devoted to God in soul and service, and perfectly happy.

Wherein consists the happiness of heaven?

In loving, serving, worshipping, and glorifying God eternally, and enjoying communion with the Father, Son and Holy Ghost, always advancing in knowledge, holiness and happiness, under the eye of God.

Before are they before the throne of God, and serve him day and night in his temple: and he that sitteth on the throne shall dwell among them. Rev. 7: 15.

What number will be thus happy?

Which I beheld, and, lo, a great multitude, which no man could number, of all nations, and kindreds, and people, and tongues, stood before the throne, and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes, and palms in their hands. Rev. 7: 9.

How should the death of the righteous affect us?
It should excite us to live and die in the hope of glory.

To live is Christ, and to die is gain. (Phil. 1: 21.)
Let me die the death of the righteous, and let my last end be like his. Num. 23: 10.

LESSON XLIII.

FUTURE HAPPINESS—Continued.

How is the future punishment of the wicked represented in the Scriptures?

In terms the most terrific and affecting. It is called "death," "worm that never dieth," "bottomless pit," "darkness," "mist of darkness," "blackness of darkness forever," "lake of fire and

brimstone," "fire that never shall be quenched," "suffering the vengeance of eternal fire," "furnace of fire," "fire prepared for the devil and his angels."

10. Are not the Scriptures explicit as to misery?

They are.

The wicked shall be turned into hell, and all nations that forget God. (Psalm 9: 17.) And shall come forth that have done good, unto the resurrection of life; they that have done evil, unto the resurrection of condemnation. John 5: 29; Mark 16: 16; Prov. 1: 31; 11: 5; 7: 13; 25: 30.

11. Will the future misery of the wicked be eternal?

It is spoken of in connection with words as "eternal," "everlasting," "forever," "forever and ever." The doctrine is true or the Bible is untrue.

12. Are not the same terms descriptive of God and heaven?

They are. If hell is not eternal, neither is God or heaven.

LESSON XLIV.

FUTURE HAPPINESS—Continued.

1. Are mankind the proper judges of the merits and demerits of future punishment?

By no means, for mankind know not the full demerit of sin.

are not the doctrines of restoration and annihilation false?

They are unscriptural and false.

Considers all this, between us and you there is a great gulf fixed: so that they which would pass from hence to you cannot; neither can they pass to us that would come from thence. Luke 16: 22-26; Rev. 22: 11.

Will there be different degrees of future punishment?

Future punishment will be proportioned according to the number, magnitude and aggravation of offences committed in this state of existence.

Will render to every man according to his deeds. Matt. 2: 6; 2 Cor. 5: 10; Rev. 20: 13.

Will future misery be bodily or mental?

Both.

He shall drink of the wine of the wrath of God, which is poured out without mixture into the cup of his indignation: and he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels, in the presence of the Lamb. Rev. 14: 10. Matt. 25: 41-50.

Will there be a place or state?

The Scriptures represent, in strong terms, both heaven and hell to be places.

LESSON XLV.

THE CHURCH.

What is a church?

A body of believers, who have been immersed by a regularly ordained minister of the gospel, who have embraced

the essential doctrines of Christianity have covenanted to walk according to the laws, instructions and doctrines of Christ, and are living, as far as possible, in accordance with them.

2. Are not churches local organizations?

They are. Such were the churches of Rome, Corinth, Ephesus, Philippi, Colosse and Thessalonica.

Unto the church of God which is at Corinth, to them all which are sanctified in Christ Jesus, called to be saints, all that in every place call upon the name of our Lord Jesus Christ our Lord, both theirs and ours. 1 Cor. 1:2.

3. What are the qualifications for such membership?

Repentance, faith and immersion.

And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. (Acts 8, 37.) Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day there were added unto them about three thousand souls. Acts 2: 41.

4. Do all professors of religion possess experimental piety or vital godliness?

Some are hypocritical professors.

And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity. Matt. 7: 23.

5. For what is the institution of the church on earth designed.

The promotion of holiness and happiness among mankind, and edification of God's people, by the maintenance and diffusion of the truths of religion, and the support of gospel ordinances.

LESSON XLVI.

THE CHURCH—Continued.

What are the ordinances of the church?

Baptism and the Lord's Supper.

Have churches or bodies of believers, in every age since the advent of Christ, existed, holding to salvation by grace and believers' immersion?

Church history so teaches, although the traces are occasionally dim and scattered, yet conclusive as to the fact.

Is the church a voluntary society?

It is.

They first gave their own selves unto the Lord, and unto us by the will of God. 2 Cor. 8: 5.

Should all truly pious persons join the church?

They should.

Therefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, said the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing, and I will receive you. 2 Cor. 6: 17.

Is there any difference among the members of a church in point of privilege?

There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither bond nor free, there is neither male nor female: for ye are all one in Christ Jesus. Gal. 3: 28.

Ought the church to observe the ordinances of the Gospel?

Certainly.

Now I praise you, brethren, that ye remember me in all things, and keep the ordinances, as I delivered them unto you. 1 Cor. 11: 2.

7. Should God's people assemble regular worship Him?

Sickness or calamity only can ex-
them.

And let us consider one another to provoke unto love to good works: not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together, as the manner of some is; but exhorting one another: and so much the more, as ye see day approaching. Heb. 10: 24, 25; Acts 2: 42.

LESSON XLVII.

OFFICERS OF A CHURCH.

1. Who are the proper officers of a church?

A pastor and deacons.

Paul and Timotheus, the servants of Jesus Christ, to the saints in Christ Jesus which are at Philippi, to the bishops and deacons. Phil. 1: 1; Eph. 4: 11.

2. What other names are applied to ministers of the gospel?

Bishop, pastor, minister, elder, teacher, steward and ambassador. 1 Timot. 3: 1; Jer. 3: 15; 1 Cor. 4: 1; Ezek. 3: 17; 1 Peter 5: 1; Ephes. 4: 1; 2 Cor. 5: 20.

2. Are not bishops and elders identical?

They are.

And from Miletus he sent to Ephesus, and called the elders of the church. (Acts 20: 17.) And Paul said, Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers (epi-copous, the word elsewhere translated bishops,) to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood. Acts 20: 28; 1 Timot. 1: 1; 1 Peter 5: 1; Titus 1: 6, 7.

In what way, and by whom, is one called by God to the ministry—invested with the pastoral office?

By prayer and imposition of hands by regular ministers of the gospel, which is ordination.

Is not the gift that is in thee, which was given thee by prophecy, with the laying on of the hands of the presbytery. 1 Tim. 4: 14; Acts 13: 3.

What are the principal duties of a minister of the gospel?

Preaching the gospel, leading in religious services, administering the ordinances, visiting the sick, attending funerals, performing marriage ceremonies, giving private instruction in religious things, especially to the young, and watching over all the spiritual concerns of the people.

Is not the word: be instant in season, out of season; reprove, rebuke, exhort with all long-suffering and doctrine. 2 Tim. 4: 2.

Should not all who share in the labors of a minister to contribute to his maintenance while he dispenses the word and ordinances?

Certainly, as a debt justly and honorably due.

Is not so hath the Lord ordained, that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel. (1 Cor. 9: 7, 11, 14.) Let him that is taught in the word communicate unto him that teacheth in all good things. Gal. 6: 6; Matt. 9, 10; 1 Tim. 5: 18.

Should ministers to seek after high attainments?

Paul says, Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth. 2 Tim. 2: 15.

8 How should they be esteemed?

Against an elder receive not an accusation but before two or three witnesses. And we beseech you, brethren, know them which labor among you, and are over in the Lord, and admonish you; and to esteem them very highly in love for their work's sake. And let peace among yourselves. 1 Thes. 5: 12, 13.

LESSON XLVIII.

CHRISTIAN BAPTISM.

1. What is Christian baptism?

It is a positive ordinance of Jesus Christ wherein a believer is immersed in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. Matt. 28: 19.

2. By whom should baptism be administered?

By a minister of the gospel, who himself has been immersed on profession of his faith and properly inducted into the ministerial office.

3. What is signified by baptism?

It is the symbol of regeneration, the outward and visible sign of an inward spiritual grace; a dedication to God.

the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost.

by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to his mercy he saved us, by the washing of regeneration, and renewing of the Holy Ghost. Titus 3: 5; Acts 1: 5; 1 Peter 1: 2.

Did John's baptism refer to a coming Saviour?

It did.

John said Paul, John verily baptized with the baptism of repentance, saying unto the people, that they should believe on him which should come after him, that is, on Christ Jesus. Acts 19: 4.

Was John's baptism of divine appointment?

It was.

What sent me to baptize with water. John 1: 33.

Should faith precede baptism?

It should.

Whoever believeth and is baptized shall be saved; he that believeth not shall be damned. Mark 16: 16.

Did Philip receive a profession of faith from the eunuch before he would baptize him?

He did.

As they went on their way, they came unto a certain water; and the eunuch said, See, here is water; what doth hinder me to be baptized? And Philip said, If thou believest with all thine heart, thou mayest. And he answered and said, I believe that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. And he commanded the chariot to stand still; and they went down both into the water, both Philip and the eunuch; and he baptized him. Acts 8: 36-38.

LESSON XLIX.

CHRISTIAN BAPTISM—Continued.

1. Do the Scriptures teach any other act of baptism than immersion?

The chief scholars and theologians of the world since Christ's advent, all agree that Jesus was immersed: that he commanded immersion, and that his disciples practised it; and that there has been no variation from it till the third century.

2. Is baptism a public declaration of our death to sin, and of a life of righteousness?

It is.

For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection: knowing this, that our old man is crucified with him, that the body of sin might be destroyed, that henceforth we should not serve sin. For he who is dead is free from sin. Rom. 6: 5-7.

3. Is it an emblem of our salvation?

The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also save us, (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God, by the resurrection of Jesus Christ. 1 Peter 3: 21.)

4. To what does baptism with the Holy Ghost and with fire refer?

To the abundance of the miraculous influences of the Holy Ghost.

He shall baptize you with the Holy Ghost and with fire (Matt. 3: 11.) And there appeared unto them tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost. Acts 2: 3, 4.

are the sufferings of Christ compared to ■ baptism?

said, But I have a baptism to be baptized with; and now am I straitened till it be accomplished. Luke 12: 50.

Is not baptism an evidence of love to Christ? ■ is.

Love me, keep my commandments. (John 14: 15.)
I am your friends, if ye do whatsoever I command
1. John 15: 14.

LESSON L.

THE LORD'S SUPPER.

What is to be understood by the Lord's Supper?
The holy ordinance in which the sufferings and death of Christ are commemorated.

When was this ordinance instituted?

We have received of the Lord that which I also delivered to you, That the Lord Jesus, the same night in which he was betrayed, took bread: and when he had given thanks, he brake it, and said, Take, eat; this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me. After the same manner also he took the cup, when he had supped, saying, This is the cup of the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as often as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. 1 Cor. 11: 23-25; 1 Cor. 10: 26: 26.

Who are entitled to partake of the Lord's Supper?

Only those believers who have given evidence of a change of heart, have been baptized upon profession of their faith, and are attached in good fellowship to a gospel church.

4. Ought we to recognize as Christians those who are not baptized?

We ought. We may fellowship true Christians, but not as church-members, nor entitled to the Lord's Supper.
18: 19, 20.

5. Did the practice of the early Christians conform to these views?

They did.

Then they that gladly received his word were added: and the same day there were added unto the church three thousand souls. And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers. Acts 2: 41, 42.

6. Is the ordinance a public testimony of fellowship with Christ and union with the church?

It is.

The cup of blessing which we bless, is it not the communion of the blood of Christ? The bread which we break, is it not the communion of the body of Christ? For we being many are one bread, and one body, we are all partakers of that one bread. 1 Cor. 10: 16, 17.

7. With what affections should we observe the Lord's Supper?

Spiritual.

Therefore let us keep the feast, not with old leaven, but with the unleavened bread of sincerity and truth. 1 Cor. 5: 8.

8. How should the Lord's Supper be celebrated?

With gratitude and praise.

And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the mount of Olives. Matt. 26: 30.

LESSON LI.

CHURCH DISCIPLINE.

What are church members subject to discipline?

Immoralities in practice and heresy in doctrine.

I have written unto you not to keep company, if a man that is called a brother be a fornicator, or covetous, or an idolater, or a railer, or a drunkard, or extortioner; with such an one no not to eat. 1 Cor. 5: 11; Titus 3: 10.

Has Christ given any particular rule of proceeding in church discipline?

Yes, in the eighteenth chapter of Matthew.

Does this rule relate to all cases of discipline?

It relates specially to private offences, but the spirit of the rule may, with propriety, be observed in all cases.

1. Cor. 5: 11; Titus 3: 10.

What is the duty of church members towards each other?

They are to watch over one another for good, and, as occasion requires, reprove, rebuke and admonish.

And, if any man be overtaken in a fault, ye which are spiritual restore such a one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself lest thou also be tempted. Gal. 6: 1.

What is meant by excommunication?

Putting off from all rights and privileges.

Cor. 5: 4, 5; 1 Tim. 1: 20.

LESSON LII.

CHURCH DISCIPLINE—Continued.

1. Do the apostles recognize the right of church to exclude, in some cases?

They do.

To deliver such a one unto Satan for the destruction of the flesh, that the spirit may be saved in the Lord Jesus. 1 Cor. 5: 5; 2 Thess. 3: 6; Titus 1: 10.

2. Should we approve of any who teach a false doctrine?

If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed: for he that biddeth him God speed is partaker of his evil deeds. 2 John 10, 11.

3. Ought church discipline to aim at the good of the offender as well as the good of the church?

It ought.

And if any man obey not our word by this epistle, let that man be accursed: have no company with him, that he may be ashamed. Yet count him not as an enemy, but admonish him as a brother. 2 Thess. 3: 14-15. 1 Cor. 5: 7.

4. To whom does the power of executing the discipline of Christ in church government belong?

It belongs to the church as a body.

1 Cor. 12: 13; Matt. 16: 19; Acts 6: 2-3.

5. Ought the majority to govern?

They ought. Unanimity, however, is very desirable.

6. How should members be received or dismissed from fellowship?

Only by unanimous vote.

ay a majority excommunicate an offender?
 ich is the practice of gospel churches.
 ow ought the minority to act in reference to
 he decisions of the church?
 hey should submit with love and meek-
 ness, and a disposition to acquiesce.

LESSON LIII.

SABBATH AND CHRISTION RELATIONS.

ight the first day of the week to be observed
 the Lord's day or the Christian Sabbath?
 ought, because Christ arose from the
 lead on that day, and because the
 postles and primitive Christians ob-
 served the first day of the week as the
 sabbath.

ut is Christ's rule for human conduct?
 all things whatsoever ye would that men
 do to you, do ye even so to them: for this is
 the law and the prophets. Matt. 7: 12.

sinful to neglect any opportunity of doing
 good?

ye to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it
 him it is sin. James 4: 17.

ld Christians carefully avoid being in debt?
 y should.

in anything but to love one another; for he that
 another hath fulfilled the law. Rom. 13; 8.

5. Ought Christians to guard against the in-
use of the tongue?

If any man among you seem to be religious, and
not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, th
religion is vain. James 1: 26.

6. Ought Christians to advance in divine

Beware lest ye also, being led away with the err
wicked, fall from your own steadfastness. I
in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and
Jesus Christ. To whom be glory both now
ever. Amen. 2 Peter 3: 17, 18

LESSON LIV.

CHRISTIAN RELATIONS.

1. Do the Scriptures give definite rules
marriage relation?

They do. Matt. 19: 5, 6. 9; He
4; Col. 3: 18; Eph. 5: 25, 28;
3: 7; 1 Tim. 5: 8; and others

2. Do the Scriptures teach the duties of
and children?

And, ye fathers, provoke not your children to w
bring them up in the nurture and admoniti
Lord. (Eph. 6: 4.) Children, obey your pare
things: for this is well pleasing unto the Lo
3: 20.

3. Ought citizens to obey the civil author

Let every soul be subject unto the higher pow
there is no power but of God: the powers th
ordained of God. Rom. 13: 1, 2.

4. Should we pray for men in high place

I exhort therefore, that, first of all, supplications
intercessions, and giving of thanks, be made
men; for kings, and for all that are in autho
we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all
and honesty. 1 Tim. 2: 1, 2.

5. Should we be willing to pay taxes to
the government?

cause pay ye tribute also: for they are God's ministers, attending continually upon this very thing. n. 13: 6.

LESSON LV.

PRAYER AND GENERAL DUTIES.

What is prayer?

It is a suppliant religious address. It implies need, desire and expectation. Luke 18: 13.

To whom should it be offered?

God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost. Luke 11: 2; 2 Cor. 12: 4; Acts 7: 59.

In whose name should prayer be offered?

In the name of Christ.

Through him we both have access by one Spirit unto the Father. (Eph. 2: 18.) For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus. 1 Tim. 2: 5.

What is prayer to be offered?

For such things as are lawful in themselves, and which tend to advance the glory of God, the welfare of the church and the world, and the good of others.

To whom is prayer to be offered?

To God, therefore, that, first of all, supplications, prayers, petitions, giving of thanks, be made for all men; kings, and for all that are in authority; that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and honesty. 1 Tim. 2: 1, 2; Eph. 6: 18.

What is the duty of wicked men to pray?

Repent therefore of this thy wickedness, and pray God, perhaps the thought of thine heart may be forgiven thee. For I perceive that thou art in the gall of bitterness, and in the bond of iniquity. Acts 8: 22, 23.

LESSON LVI. GENERAL DUTIES.

1. Should we give of our means to spread gospel?

We certainly should.

It is more blessed to give than to receive. Acts 20: 35.

2. Is any specific sum required of us?

There is not.

For if there be first a willing mind, it is accepted according to that a man hath; and not according to the thing that he hath not. 2 Cor. 8: 12.

3. Whence come the means and disposition to give?

From God.

And God is able to make all grace abound toward us, that ye, always having sufficiency in all things, may abound to every good work. 2 Cor. 9: 8.

4. Should not all men give voluntarily?

They should.

Every man according as he purposeth in his heart, so let him give; not grudgingly, or of necessity: for God loveth a cheerful giver. 2 Cor. 9: 7.

5. Are we blessed in giving cheerfully to the service of God?

We are.

But this I say, He which soweth sparingly shall reap sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall also reap bountifully. 2 Cor. 9: 6.

6. What is the end of our being?

To serve and glorify our Heavenly Father.

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